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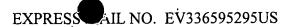
TRANSMITTAL FORM

(To be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Application Number	10/039,240	
Filing Date	January 4, 2002	
First Named Inventor	Vincent E. Bryan	
Art Unit	3763	
Examiner Name	LoAn H. Thanh	
Attorney Docket No.	170134.401	

Receipt Amendment/Response After Final Affidavits/declaration(s) Extension of Time Request Figures Abandan ment	related Papers CD(s), Number of CD(s) After Allowance Communication to Group Appeal Communication to		
Request Information Disclosure Statement; Form PTO-1449 Cited References Power of A Revocation Correspond Declaration	Convert to a I Application Attorney, In, Change of dence Address In under 37 CFR Disclaimer Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Proprietary Information Status Letter Return Receipt Postcard Additional Enclosure(s)		
Remarks	<u> </u>		
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Individual Name E. Russell Tarleton	Customer Number 00500		
Signature E. Rusself July	RECEIVED		
Date December 30, 2003	JAN 0 5 2004		
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Vincent E. Bryan et al.

Application No.

10/039,240

Filed

January 4, 2002

For

SPINAL NEEDLE SYSTEM

Examiner

LoAn H. Thanh

Art Unit

3763

Docket No.

170134.401

Date

December 30, 2003

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JAN 0 5 2004

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT CHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT (CORRECTED)

Commissioner for Patents:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated October 17, 2003, and the Office Action dated December 17, 2003, applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1-5, 7-10, 12, and 13, for examination at this time. Applicants further elect to prosecute the species corresponding to Figures 1 and 9 and subspecies corresponding to Figures 11a, 11b, of which claims 1-5, 7-10, 12, and 13 read thereon.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.